Some little time after this interview, I was at his house for dinner, and when we took our places he invited me to invoke the blessing, and so at his table my first effort of the kind was ever made.

For some years we were confidential friends, but finally our paths drifted far apart and we saw and knew but little of each other face to face, but in memory he was often present to my mind, and he is now, as I pencil these memorial paragraphs, seemingly near enough to grasp his hand and greet him the time of day. He was a scrupulous member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, an ardent advocate of temperance, and intensely devoted to the welfare of his country.

EDWARD ERVINE.

Among the citizens of prominence in the organization of the county was Edward Ervine, late of the Greenbank District. His residence was at the head of Trimble's Run. This homestead is now occupied by his son Preston, and David Gragg, a son in law.

Mr Ervine was born April 2, 1790, near Miller's Iron works, Augusta County, and lived there until manhood. He married Mary Curry, who was born June 20, 1794. Upon leaving Augusta County soon after his marriage, he settled on Back Creek, near the Brick House at the mouth of the Long Draft. They were the parents of ten children, seven sons and three daughters. The daughters were Mary Ann, now Mrs

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George Tracy; Margaret Jane, born 1827, now Mrs Charles Philips; Frances Elzedie, born 1829, became Mrs Jacob Tomlinson, late of Kansas.

In reference to the sons of this pioneer Edward Ervine, we have the following particulars, furnished by his son, Preston Ervine :

Benjamin Franklin Ervine born 1816, married Mary daughter of Robert Kerr, who were the parents of these children : Eliza, now Mrs James Hughes; Edward Newton, on Buffalo Mountain homestead; Margaret, recently deceased, who was for the most of her useful life an inmate of Hon. S. B. Hanna's family, on Deer Creek. She will be long remembered for her very interesting character.

B. F. Ervine entered the Confederate service, was captured on the Upper tract in 1861, and died a prisoner of war soon after.

James Addison Ervine, born 1818, married Elizabeth, daughter of Patrick Bruffey, and lived on the Nottingham place, and were the parents of six daughters and three sons. The sons were William, Calvin, and James Patrick. The daughters were Mrs Stephen Lockridge, late of Highland County, Mary, Harriet, Elizabeth, Caroline, and Rose. Soon after the war J. A. Ervine moved to Missouri and located near St. Louis

William Frye Ervine (born 1824) first married Elizabeth Kerr and settled on property now owned by Marion Ray. Mrs Brown Arbogast is their daughter.

Second marriage was with Mary Jane Burner. The children of this marriage were John Preston and Amy, now Mrs Joe Riley.

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Third marriage was with Mrs Elizabeth Jane Taylor, widow of William Taylor, daughter of the late Frederick Burr, near Huntersville. The children of this marriage are Mrs Mary Burns, of Bath County, and McNeer Ervine, on the Burr homestead on Browns Mt.

Robert Hook Ervine (born 1831) married Mrs Isaac Hartman (nee Matheny) and settled near Pine Grove. Their one child, Bertha, died at the age of seven years.

Edward Augustus Ervine (1833) married Mary Ann daughter of Henry Beverage, and moved to Centreville, Upshur County, where he now lives. They are the parents of four daughters and two sons, Vernon, George, Amanda, Laura Ann, Nancy Jane, and Sarah.

Preston Cunningham Ervine (1836) married Margaret Rebecca Beverage, and settled on a section of the parental homestead. His family consists of four sons and eight daughters; Mrs Susan Varner, of Georgia: Mrs Alice Arbogast, Mrs Emma Kellar, Mrs Nannie Rader, Mrs Clara Arbogast. David Lee married Virgie Sutton, daughter of Samuel Sutton, and lives at the homestead; Cora Ella, now Mrs Jesse Orndorf; Houston died tn 1897 in his 20th year. Lola Grace and Sadie Florence at their homes.

Charles Washington Ervine (1838) married Serena, daughter of Solomon Varner, and settled in Upshur County, near Centreville, where he died in 1896. Their children were Baxter, Florence Rebecca, now Mrs McWhorter in Buckhannon; Bryson, Ida, now Mrs John Gawthrop, near Centreville; Walker lives in Upshur, Brady in the far west, and Gertrude.

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The foregoing are some of the particulars that illustrate the family history of Edward Ervine, a citizen of marked prominence in his day in county affairs. He became a citizen of this region some time before the organization of the county, and was one of the first members of the County Court. Upon his removal from Back Creek he settled on lands bought of Bonaparte Trimble, who lived in Augusta County, not far from Buffalo Gap. The improvements at the time of his purchase consisted of a primittve cabin, an acre or so of cleared land, and, as the reader has just been informed, reared a large family.

He held the office of magistrate for almost his lifetime, celebrated numerous marriages, presided at a great many trials, and issued more warrants than can be readily enumerated. His disposition was jovial, and his humor seemed inspiring, and wherever he went he seemed to diffuse good humor and cheerfulness. For a long while he was a member of Liberty Church, and was a model specimen of the plain, straightforward, Scotch-Irish Virginian. It appears from the Curry records in Augusta that Mr Ervine was a lineal descendant of one of the three Curry brothers who came to the Valley of Virginia with the earliest emigrants.

In the leadings of an all wise providence, Edward Ervine's lot fell to him in a sparsely populated country The type of religion he inherited in Scotland and the north of Ireland tended to blend in personal character indomitable industry, wise provision, and satisfying

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comfort, and the ideal of his endeavors was to have a home of his own amid fields and meadows. Of such homes an eloquent writer says: "The homes of our land are its havens of peace, its sanctuaries of strength and happiness. Hence come those principles of probity and integrity that are the safeguards of our nation."

ANDREW EDMISTON.

Andrew Edmiston, Esq., of Scotch-Irish ancestry, late of the lower Levels, is the subject of this biographic memoir. The immediate ancestry of the Edmiston relationship is traceable to Matthew Edmiston, who came to Augusta County, Va., from Chester County, Pa., among the earliest settlers of Augusta County, about 1740, or very soon thereafter.

James Edmiston, a son of Matthew the ancestor, was one of six children and was born in Augusta County, October 7, 1746, and died October 7, 1817. James Edmiston's wife was Jane Smith, from Ireland, who was born October 17th, 1746, and died May 20th, 1837, aged 91 years. Andrew Edmiston, son of James, was born July 22d, 1777.

Soon after his marriage with Mary (Polly) Gilliland, January 8th, 1807, Mr Edmiston settled near Locust, on lands now owned by George Callison. In reference to Mrs Polly Edmiston, let it be noticed here that she was a daughter of the first Mrs James Gilliland,—

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